

# What to do if you find water primrose...

- This is a priority noxious weed! Please report sites to the Oregon Department of Agriculture immediately! Document sites using landmarks or GPS coordinates for further investigation.
- Do not purchase, transplant or use water primrose as an ornamental. Remove any existing ornamental plantings and control escaped populations.
- Prevent the spread by thoroughly cleaning boots, pets, boats, or equipment of mud and debris that may carry seeds.

Don't let water primrose get a foothold in Oregon!

**Report suspect sites to**

Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Invasive Noxious Weed  
Control Program  
503-986-4621 or call

**1-866-INVADER**



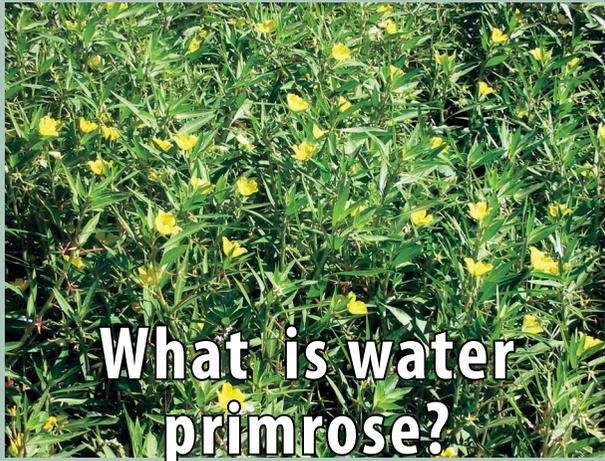
**Oregon**  
Department  
of Agriculture

Plant Protection & Conservation Programs  
Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program  
635 Capitol St. NE  
Salem OR 97301-2532

**Water primrose**

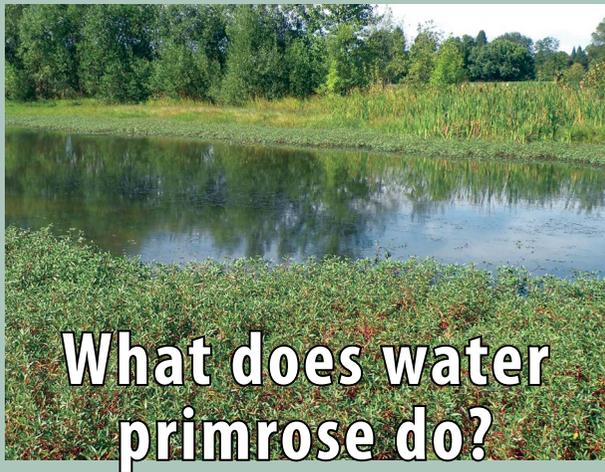
***Ludwigia spp.***  
**Aquatic invader!**





## What is water primrose?

There are three invasive water primroses with very similar appearance; all were introduced as aquatic ornamentals. They are aquatic plants with floating stems and bright yellow flowers. In recent years, water primroses have started to spread rapidly in Oregon and elsewhere in the US.



## What does water primrose do?

Water primrose forms dense mats of plant material on the water surface. Mats displace native plants, interfering with wildlife, and reducing recreational activities such as boating, swimming, and fishing. Decaying plant material can cause rapid sedimentation and lower oxygen levels, killing fish.



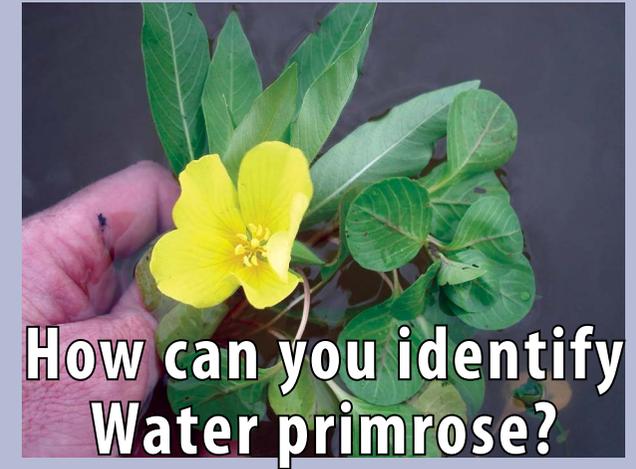
## How does water primrose spread?

Water primrose is often spread to new areas by using it for ornamental purposes. It has a history of use in aquatic gardens. Local spread can take place by either seeds or stem fragments. Stems and seeds are moved during flood events or by waterfowl. Movement of recreational equipment for boating or fishing can cause spread.

## Distribution in Oregon



- Widely distributed
- Limited distribution
- Historical site
- Not known to occur



## How can you identify Water primrose?

Plants may be floating, creeping, or upright. Leaves are highly variable. Early in the growing season, floating stems produce rosettes of smooth, shiny, round leaves. Elongated, willow-like leaves arranged alternately along reddish-brown stems are more common later in the season. Blooms in summer to early fall with bright yellow 1 inch solitary flowers having five to six petals each. Note: In Oregon, invasive water primroses include *Ludwigia peploides*, *L. hexapetala*, *L. grandiflora* but not the native marsh seedbox (*Ludwigia palustris*) with opposite leaves and inconspicuous bell-shaped green flowers.



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**Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program**  
[www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Weeds](http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Weeds)  
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 Contact 1-866-invader for more information 5/2017